



PEMSEA Meeting Report 16

PROCEEDINGS OF
THE TENTH EAST ASIAN SEAS
PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

**Peninsula Manila
Makati City, Philippines
24–27 July 2018**



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
TENTH EAST ASIAN SEAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING**

**The Peninsula Manila, Makati City, Philippines
24-27 July 2018**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Executive Summary	i
Introduction	1
A. COUNCIL SESSION	
1.0 Opening of the Council Session and Adoption of Agenda	1
2.0 Summary of Recommendations and Decisions of 9 th PC Meeting and 20 th and 21 st EC Meetings and Actions Taken	2
3.0 Report of Council Chair	2
4.0 Report/Reflections of PEMSEA Executive Director	2
B. TECHNICAL SESSION	
1.0 Opening of the Technical Session and Adoption of Agenda	5
2.0 SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022	5
3.0 East Asian Seas Congress 2018	8
4.0 National and Regional State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting	9
5.0 ICM Training Manual	11
6.0 Collaborative Discussion on Special Issues	12
C. INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION	
1.0 Opening of the Intergovernmental Session and Adoption of Agenda	16
2.0 PEMSEA's Sustainability	16
3.0 Sustainable Financing Mechanism for the SDS-SEA Implementation	18
4.0 Sixth Ministerial Forum and Declaration	19
5.0 PEMSEA Corporate Work Plan and Budget 2018-2019	21
6.0 Other Business	21
7.0 Adoption of Council and Technical Session Agenda	22
8.0 Closing of the 10 th PC Meeting	22
Annex 1: List of Participants	23
Annex 2: Council Session Agenda	29
Annex 3: Technical Session Agenda	31
Annex 4: Intergovernmental Session Agenda	34

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Tenth East Asian Seas (EAS) Partnership Council Meeting was held at the Peninsula Manila, Makati City, Philippines from 24 to 27 July 2018. The Meeting was attended by representatives from nine PEMSEA Partner Countries, namely: China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. A representative from Thailand participated as an observer. Nine representatives from Non-Country Partners were in attendance, namely: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB); Conservation International (CI) Philippines; International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM); Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST); Ocean Policy Research Institute Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF); Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL); Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML); and PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG). Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines and Regional Hub Bangkok participated as observers.

The Partnership Council focused on the following agenda items: approval of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022, updates on the upcoming East Asian Seas Congress 2018, status of the National and Regional State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting, approval of the ICM Training Manual, discussion on PEMSEA's Sustainability, updates on sustainable financing mechanism for the SDS-SEA implementation, review of the draft Sixth Ministerial Forum declaration, and approval of the PEMSEA work plan and budget 2018-2019.

The major decisions of Council covered the:

- Adoption of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022 taking into consideration additional suggestions/clarifications that were raised at the meeting;
- Approval of the PEMSEA Corporate Work Plan 2018-2019; and
- Adoption of ICM Training Manual as a PEMSEA-certified document.

The Council noted further actions needed on the following:

- Country Partners to complete the National SOC Reports in August in preparation for East Asian Seas Congress 2018;
- Country Partners to secure their respective country voluntary contribution in support of PEMSEA's sustainability based on their commitments at the 2015 Da Nang Ministerial Forum;
- Country Partners to start identifying possible nominees for Council Co-Chairs in preparation for the formal nomination which will commence in April 2019 and conclude with formal election at 11th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in July 2019.
- PEMSEA Partners to actively participate in the East Asian Seas Congress 2018;
- PEMSEA Partners to engage and support the development of PEMSEA Post-2020 Plan
- PRF to incorporate results of the collaborative discussions in developing the PEMSEA Post-2020 Plan;
- PRF to continue the implementation of East Asia Ocean Investment Facility; and
- PRF to revise and recirculate the Sixth Ministerial Declaration and Ministerial Forum program for country partners' further review and input.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TENTH EAST ASIAN SEAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

The Peninsula Manila, Makati City, Philippines
24-27 July 2018

INTRODUCTION

- i. The 10th EAS Partnership Council Meeting was held at the Peninsula Manila, Makati City, Philippines from 24 to 27 July 2018.
- ii. The Meeting was attended by representatives from nine PEMSEA Partner Countries, namely: China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. A representative from Thailand participated as an observer. Nine representatives from Non-Country Partners were in attendance, namely: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB); Conservation International (CI) Philippines; International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM); Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST); Ocean Policy Research Institute Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF); Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL); Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML); and PEMSEA Network of Local Governments.
- iii. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines and the UNDP Regional Hub Bangkok, were present as sponsoring organizations. The PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as the Secretariat for the Meeting.
- iv. The full list of participants is found in Annex 1.

COUNCIL SESSION

1.0 **Opening of Council Session and Adoption of Council Session Agenda** [\(PC/18/DOC/01\)](#)

- 1.1 The Council Session was chaired by Dr. Antonio La Viña, Council Chair, together with Mr. Arief Yuwono, Council Co-Chair.
- 1.2 Dr. La Viña opened the Council Session by welcoming all participants from PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners. He also welcomed Ms. Aimee Gonzales as the new Executive Director of PEMSEA and expressed his appreciation and gratitude towards the former Executive Director, Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, for his remarkable service through the years.
- 1.3 The Secretariat presented the agenda and schedule of the Council Session which was adopted by the meeting (Annex 2).

2.0 Summary of Recommendations and Decisions of the 9th EAS Partnership Council and the 20th and 21st Executive Committee Meeting and Status of Actions Taken [\(PC/18/DOC/02\)](#)

2.1 Ms. Aimee Gonzales, PEMSEA Executive Director, presented a summary of key actions undertaken by the PRF in collaboration with the Partners, based on the recommendations and decisions of the 9th EAS Partnership Council (July 2017) and the 20th and 21st Executive Committee Meetings (November 2017 and April 2018).

2.2 The Council Session noted that some of the recommendations and decisions of the 9th EAS PC Meeting and the 20th and 21st have been addressed, while majority are still ongoing activities that will be discussed under specific agenda items of the Meeting.

3.0 Report of the Council Chair [\(PC/18/DOC/03\)](#)

3.1 Dr. Antonio La Viña presented the Council Chair's Report focusing on key policy issues and guidance provided by the Executive Committee during its 20th and 21st EC Meeting. In particular, he focused on the following: Regional SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022; PEMSEA's self-sustainability; sustainable financing for SDS-SEA implementation; Sixth Ministerial Forum; and East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2018.

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

3.2 The Meeting noted the perspectives and insights of the Executive Committee on the key PEMSEA policy issues covered at the 20th and 21st Executive Committee Meetings.

3.3 The Meeting noted that the development of the Ministerial Declaration for the Sixth Ministerial Forum is currently being discussed only with Country Partners as signatories to the Declaration, however, it is also important to consider additional inputs/insights from Non-Country Partners to further strengthen the Declaration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council Session recommended:

3.4 To provide opportunity to Non-Country Partners to provide inputs or recommendations to Ministerial Forum preparation, particularly in the development of the Ministerial Declaration.

4.0 Report/Reflections of the PEMSEA Executive Director [\(PC/18/DOC/04\)](#)

4.1 The PEMSEA Executive Director shared her reflections on the first six months of her leadership since assuming office in January 2018 and what she initially foresees as the future of PEMSEA. She informed the Council that the details on PEMSEA's accomplishments, covering both Country and Non-Country Partners' initiatives contributing to the SDS-SEA implementation, are captured in the PEMSEA Annual Report 2017 which is also accessible online [\(e-link\)](#).

- 4.2 The ED provided her insights on the following 4 major questions raised by the Country and Non-Country Partners during her country visits which were conducted from February to July 2018:
- What is the difference between PEMSEA and other regional organizations?
 - What is the next big idea for ICM?
 - How to ensure PRF's sustainability?
 - What would success for PEMSEA look like?
- 4.3 The ED highlighted that PEMSEA's success would rest on the ability to continue demonstrating real and meaningful actions on the ground that contribute both to achieving the region's vision in the SDS-SEA as well as to international commitments, particularly the UN SDGs. It is also important for PEMSEA to build on its unique characteristics (partnership characteristic, the agreed regional framework of the SDS-SEA, the operating modality at 3 levels of governance, ICM as the operational concept/mechanism, SOC as a monitoring tool to guide policy formulation and actions, and assistance to local governments to secure additional revenues), while keeping ahead on emerging issues/challenges and opportunities on coastal and ocean governance and development in the EAS region.
- 4.4 The ED also emphasized the value and validity of the recommendations provided by the Third-Party Assessment for achieving PEMSEA's self-sustainability (i.e., securing of more predictable unrestricted country voluntary contributions, pursue diverse funding options, develop and sustain pipeline of bankable projects, and encourage secondments and staff exchange from the Country Partners/Non-Country Partners to the PRF.

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- 4.5 The Council Session welcomed and noted with appreciation the work/progress made by the new Executive Director since her appointment in January 2018. The Council Session also expressed appreciation to Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross for his efficient leadership during his term as PEMSEA Executive Director.
- 4.6 Dr. Ta Dinh Thi, Acting Director General, Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI), Vietnam cited the key role of ocean governance and strengthening multilevel coordination as key to addressing the different challenges confronting the EAS region. In addition, VASI provided the following questions: (a) Does PEMSEA provide country partners inhouse expertise to support East Asia countries?; and (b) What is the orientation of PEMSEA in the next ten years?.
- 4.7 In line with PEMSEA's organizational transition from a CSO to IGO, Mr. Kwang-Ryong Kim, Director, Marine Environment Policy Division, Marine Policy Office, Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of RO Korea, underscored the importance for PEMSEA to undertake in-depth consultation both internally and externally.
- 4.8 Dr. Vu Thanh Ca, Acting Intergovernmental Session Chair, emphasized the strong recognition on PEMSEA as the regional implementing mechanism for the SDS-SEA. Given PEMSEA's accomplishments and development for the past 25 years, Dr. Ca sees value for the countries of the region to support PEMSEA's sustainability in order to ensure continuity in established good initiatives, rather than create an entirely new mechanism.

- 4.9 Dr. Jose Padilla, Regional Technical Adviser, Waters and Oceans, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub, reiterated UNDP's support in the continuing transformation of PEMSEA. He highlighted several projects that PEMSEA will be engaged in, with the aim to continue building PEMSEA's capacity as an intergovernmental organization as well as contributing to PEMSEA's financial sustainability. Dr. Padilla mentioned that PEMSEA's vision aligns well with UNDP's priorities and thus, continuing partnerships with PEMSEA is foreseen.
- 4.10 Mr. Dida Migfar Ridha, Director, Marine and Coastal Pollution and Degradation Control, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia, expressed support on the proposed PEMSEA Post-2020 plan and recommended a stocktaking review of effectiveness of PEMSEA's past efforts, consolidate progress in line with the State of Oceans and Coasts reports, and identify capacity and financing requirements that would help facilitate PEMSEA's post-2020 agenda.

CONCLUSIONS

The Council Session concluded that:

- 4.11 PEMSEA's achievements for past 25 years underscores that PEMSEA is moving in the right direction.
- 4.12 The proposed PEMSEA Post-2020 Plan provides a good opportunity for the region to take stock of accomplishments and remaining gaps/challenges, as well as identify opportunities that would guide the development of PEMSEA's futures plan.
- 4.13 The Ocean Leadership Roundtable on Futures Outlook and the EAS Congress 2018 would provide an initial opportunity and platform to discuss PEMSEA Post-2020 Plan and continuing role of PEMSEA in coordinating the SDS-SEA implementation.
- 4.14 It is important to identify innovative financing mechanisms to sustain PEMSEA so as to reduce reliance on the Trust Fund and voluntary contributions.
- 4.13 The transformation of PEMSEA to an intergovernmental organization with its own juridical identity has opened and will continue to open project opportunities with PEMSEA, including projects currently being developed with UNDP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Council Session recommended that:

- 4.14 PRF consider emerging and persistent challenges being confronted by the countries in the region in future planning (i.e., marine debris, plastics, ecosystem degradation, biodiversity loss, fishery depletion, etc.)
- 4.15 As part of planning for PEMSEA Post-2020, PRF consider conducting stocktaking discussions, and development of a road map that would cover both mid-term and long-term programs of work.

TECHNICAL SESSION

1.0 Opening of the Technical Session and Adoption of the Technical Session Agenda [\(PC/18/DOC/05b\)](#)

1.1 The Technical Session was chaired by Mr. Makoto Harunari, Technical Session Chair together with Dr. Jae Ryoung Oh, Technical Session Co-Chair.

1.2 The Technical Session adopted the session agenda as presented (Annex 3).

2.0 SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022 [\(PC/18/DOC/06\)](#)

2.1 The PEMSEA ED provided an update on the status of development of SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022 in which suggested inputs were considered and incorporated through consultations with Country and Non-Country Partners.

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

2.2 The following Partners provided additional suggestions on the SDS-SEA IP:

- Singapore
 - Page 3, Attachment 1, 2nd paragraph, last sentence: delete “Action Programme” so as to be consistent with actual title of CBD document. Revised statement to read:
“the Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”
 - Page 8, suggest to delete footnote 5 on Ecologically or Biologically significant Areas (EBSA) as coastal uses can be zoned using many other tools apart from EBSA
 - Page 9, section 1.3, suggest to include clarificatory note what green infrastructure and blue carbon might entail
 - Page 15, section 2.3, suggest to delete “achievement of their respective NDCs”. Revised statement to read: “contributing to global efforts to address climate change”
 - Page 17, 4th paragraph, suggest to re-confirm if all Country Partners are signatories to the major international instruments, conventions, and protocols on marine pollution management and major international and regional programs of actions
 - Page 26, section 4.1, suggest to clarify type of “voluntary agreements” to be signed under the first indicator
 - Page 27, section 4.3, suggest to include “and coastal” in the first indicator. Revised indicator to read: “National ocean and coastal policies...”
 - Suggest to clarify if the “regional review of national ocean policy” is to be done through the regional SOC report. If so, suggest the following edit: “Regional review of regional ~~national~~ ocean policy”.
- RO Korea
 - requested the PRF to further enhance technical support and knowledge transfer to address identified needs and gaps in PEMSEA Country Partners

- requested the PRF to further explain the definition of Ocean Investment Fund and Facility (OIFF)
- Philippines
 - While the revised SDS-SEA IP may not be perfect, it already provides a significant guide and platform for PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners to coordinate and implement programs/initiatives that are aligned with SDS-SEA and relevant international sustainable development commitments. As such, adoption of the SDS-SEA IP is crucial to facilitate actual implementation in accordance with the IP's timeframe.

2.3 The Technical Session noted the new developments as well as initiatives of various Country and Non-Country Partners that contribute to the SDS-SEA:

- Japan
 - Approval of Japan's Third Basic Plan on Ocean Policy on May 15, 2018. The First and Second Basic Plans on Ocean Policy were adopted in 2008 and 2013, respectively, following the enactment of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy in 2007.
- ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)
 - Highlighted the interface between ACB's focus areas with the SDS-SEA particularly focusing on biodiversity conservation
 - Ongoing initiatives include the establishment of 40 ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHP) where 7 are marine AHPs and two nominations were received in 2018 for 2 additional AHPs in Thailand; implementation of the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN Project (2017-2022); preparation of the Biodiversity Outlook; and participation in the EAS Congress 2018
 - Outlined potential collaboration with PEMSEA focusing on knowledge management and promoting MPA networks and transboundary conservation.
- Conservation International (CI) Philippines
 - Various areas of interests include: fisheries management; climate change adaptation and mitigation, including the conduct of risk and vulnerability assessments for coastal ecosystems, communities and economies; cooperation in Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) for conservation of coral reefs, fisheries management and food security; Governance Building for Transboundary Seascape; piloting the Green-Gray Project for coastal protection in the Visayas and forest conservation
 - One of their latest initiatives is CI Ventures related to blue economy, which CI and PRF is exploring potential collaboration.
- International Union of Conservation for Nature (IUCN)
 - Ongoing initiatives include developing programs for enhancing resilience of coastal communities by promoting transfer of knowledge and good practices.
 - Mangroves for the Future (MFF), in particular, is in its final year of implementation and is currently working on new initiatives as part of the sustainability planning for MFF.
 - Future work are seen to focus on blue carbon, marine pollution focusing on eutrophication and marine plastics in Thailand and Vietnam and collaboration with PEMSEA on ICM and private sector engagement.

- Ocean Policy Research Institute of Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF)
 - Highlighted the progress made by the 7 ICM model sites in Japan that OPRI-SPF supported since 2009 with Shima City identified as an SDG model site.
 - Discussed the development of a guidebook in 2018 for the establishment of coastal communities that will serve as guide to achieve blue economy for sustainable development.
 - Cited ICM implementation and enhancement and development of blue economy as OPRI's focus areas in support of SDS-SEA implementation.
- Oil Spill Response Limited (OSRL)
 - Offers various Outreach Programs to enhance capacity for tiered preparedness and response, on spill impact mitigation assessment and overcoming regulatory, administrative and logistical barriers in oil spill response and updated the meeting on the various outreach activities conducted in the past year in the Asia-Pacific region
 - Highlighted the new industry standard oil spill response model for ship owners that will serve as standard contract that can be used by a shipowner whose ship has caused a spill and a contractor hired to perform clean-up services.
 - Underscored OSRL's assistance in the review of new guidelines on dispersant storage, maintenance, transport and testing that complements existing guidelines produced by IPIECA/IOGP.
- Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
 - With the recent appointment of KIOST's new President, KIOST expressed its plan to further strengthen engagement with PEMSEA as well as with other PEMSEA Partners through training and capacity building and collaboration to address transboundary issues.
- Korea Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)
 - Recent training programs initiated/conducted include: (1) capacity building on sustainable management of coastal and marine environment (Cambodia); (2) capacity building for marine debris prevention and management in the APEC region Phase 2 (APEC); (3) Project for establishing the foundation of integrated coastal zone management in some coastal provinces of Vietnam; and (4) Strengthening and improvement for marine litter response in Indonesia
 - KOEM also confirmed convening of two session at the EAS Congress Partnership Hubs, focusing on (1) Blue Carbon, and (2) Marine Debris.
- Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML)
 - In collaboration with PEMSEA and other partners, PML is initiating two projects: 1) Blue Communities, which aims to build capacity for marine planning in selected biosphere reserves located in 4 countries (Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia and Vietnam) and 2) Addressing challenges of coastal communities through ocean research for developing economies (ACCORD) project, which aims to provide scientific evidence and understanding to support adaptive management of resources and the services they provide to mitigate impacts of use and global stressors, and planning to optimise trade-offs between multiple resource uses and multiple services provided to support resilience and growth of the blue economy in Kep, Cambodia and Da Nang, Viet Nam.

CONCLUSIONS

The Technical Session concluded that:

- 2.4 The revised SDS-SEA IP covers the various activities and programs of PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners.
- 2.5 The SDS-SEA IP is aligned with various international commitments on sustainable development

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Technical Session recommended:

- 2.6 To measure impacts of the SDS-SEA, utilize reporting mechanisms (i.e., SOC, PEMSEA Annual Reporting, etc.) to establish baseline and monitor progress.
- 2.7 The endorsement of the revised SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022 to the Intergovernmental Session for adoption, taking into consideration additional inputs from the meeting (i.e., clarifications/refinements offered by Singapore).

3.0 East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2018 [\(PC/18/DOC/07\)](#)

3.1 Ms. Corazon Davis, Assistant Secretary, Policy and Planning, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines, also serving as Overall Chairperson of EAS Congress 2018 National Working Committees, provided an update on the preparations by the Philippine Government in collaboration with PEMSEA on the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2018.

3.2 In particular, she highlighted the following accomplishments/progress made:

- Working Committees established both by DENR and PEMSEA, and with strong support from Iloilo and Guimaras Province
- Work and financial plans developed and approved
- Iloilo Convention Center confirmed as EAS Congress 2018 venue
- Information package on EAS Congress released
- Letters of invitations to Ministers signed by DENR Secretary and issued to all PEMSEA Country Partners
- Office of the Philippine President is also expected to release letters to heads of states of PEMSEA member countries to request for support in ensuring the participation of Ministers to the Sixth Ministerial Forum
- Outdoor activity for 5th EAS Youth Forum delegates being planned in collaboration with DENR Region 6 in Iloilo
- Field visit packages to be offered by Iloilo and Guimaras being finalized
- EAS Congress website launched (<http://eascongress2018.pemsea.org/>)

3.3 On the program side, the following progress were reported by the Secretariat:

- All keynote speakers for Ocean Talk confirmed, except for the Climate Change speaker

- 29 Conveners (from PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners and collaborators) confirmed to convene sessions at the Partnership Hubs
- 28 Partnership Hub sessions being organized in collaboration with conveners
- Exhibit centerpiece and country panels preparation ongoing
- 10 exhibit booths reserved thus far, 31 booths still available
- Applications for 5th EAS Youth Forum received from all PEMSEA Country Partners except from Japan, Singapore and RO Korea. Funding support for youth also to be confirmed with countries
- Ministers and Senior government officials from PEMSEA Country Partners still to be confirmed

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- 3.4 The Technical Session noted with appreciation the efforts and progress made by the Philippine Government through the DENR and the PRF on the preparations for the EAS Congress 2018 and Sixth Ministerial Forum.
- 3.5 The Technical Session noted with appreciation the strong engagement of the Office of the President of the Philippines to secure Ministers' participation, and possibly the participation of the President to the EAS Congress.
- 3.6 The Technical Session noted the good turn-out of confirmations from Partners to serve as Partnership Hub conveners.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Technical Session recommended:

- 3.7 PEMSEA Partners serving as Partnership Hub conveners to finalize respective session programs in coordination with the PRF
- 3.8 Country Partners to:
- consider supporting their respective youth delegates to the Fifth EAS Youth Forum;
 - submit respective write-ups for the completion of country panels for Congress Exhibition;
 - develop and submit official list of Congress delegation, including Senior Government Official representative, and Ministers
- 3.9 Country and Non-Country Partners are requested to:
- consider putting up respective booths at the Congress exhibition;
 - assist in promoting the EAS Congress; and
 - support or recommend possible sponsors to support participation of more delegates from the developing countries in the region
- 3.8 PEMSEA Country Partners who have not yet hosted the EAS Congress to consider and inform the PRF on interest to host the EAS Congress 2021 and succeeding triennial EAS Congresses.

4.0 National and Regional State of Oceans and Coasts (SOC) Reporting **[\(PC/18/DOC/08\)](#)**

- 4.1 The Secretariat presented an update on the status of development of the National SOC Reports. An overview of the NSOC reports was covered, including defining the ocean economy, ocean industries, size of the ocean economy and contribution to GDP and employment, valuation of coastal and marine ecosystem services, risks and pressures on oceans and LMEs in the region, emerging industries and blue economy initiatives.
- 4.2 Status, challenges and activities for transforming to Blue Economy were presented for fisheries and aquaculture, coastal and marine tourism, ports and shipping, managing pollution, conserving ecosystems and biodiversity, and ending IUU fishing - highlighting the need to scale up and replicate such initiatives, and the need for responsible, sustainable and inclusive approaches.
- 4.3 Following the presentation, questions were raised by the Partners regarding (a) environmental safeguards and environmental impact assessment (EIA) as governance mechanism, (b) lack of enforcement and alternative governance structures as one of the major challenges, and (c) national level ocean economy- environment accounts given that resource valuation is site-specific.
- 4.4 Suggestions were made: (a) include related efforts of other regional organizations; (b) highlight other issues, such as trafficking of wildlife; intercountry management, law enforcement and surveillance/monitoring of shared stocks, etc. It was pointed out that initiatives of CI, IUCN, CTI, WorldFish, etc. are included in the regional SOC report. Partners were requested to provide information on their projects and activities, which they would like to be included in the Regional SOC report.
- 4.5 The recommendation of Cambodia to develop Joint Commitment on Marine Debris and Plastic Waste, including regional and national plan of action, was appreciated by the partners.
- 4.6 There is interest from ASEAN to develop State of Blue Economy reports, and from UNESCAP to collaborate on ocean accounts and waste accounts.
- 4.7 The planned timeline for preparation of the report was shared by the secretariat, followed by updates on the status of reports by the participating Partners. Partners were requested to fast track development of their reports, providing comments and sharing information as needed. Submission of final drafts is scheduled by end of August 2018.
- 4.8 The Chair requested the Partners to complete the reports, promote them within the countries to create awareness and actively participate in the Second Blue Economy Forum in November 2018.

CONCLUSIONS

The Technical Session concluded that:

- 4.9 The National and Regional SOC Reports emphasize the contribution of oceans to economies, incomes, jobs, livelihood, welfare and innovations, and benefits of blue economy initiatives, and can be used for reference by policymakers to make oceans a priority and support blue economy development.
- 4.10 The SOC Reports will serve as a useful tool for planning and management of coasts and oceans for the region to address threats and challenges, and achieve the targets of SDS-SEA, SDGs and other international agreements.
- 4.11 The timeline for preparation of the reports was acknowledged by the Partners, who need to consider taking the necessary steps to fast track development of their respective reports.
- 4.12 Partners are encouraged to promote the reports within the countries and actively participate in the Second Blue Economy Forum in November 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Technical Session recommended that:

- 4.13 Participating partners take the necessary steps to complete their National SOC Reports by August 2018 for launching at the EAS Congress.

5.0 ICM Training Manual [\(PC/18/DOC/09\)](#)

- 5.1 The Secretariat presented the ICM Training Manual for certification by the EAS Partnership Council. The Meeting noted that the ICM Manual is important in assisting participating countries in their national ICM scaling up programs through exchange and transfer of knowledge and skills on ICM practices, tools, and methodologies.
- 5.2 The Technical Session appreciated the improvement done on the ICM Manual with the inclusion of the inclusion of recent national, regional and international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); the progress and current development of national coastal and ocean policies, strategies and action plans in each country; and the integration of perspectives on learning concepts and methodologies from academic institutions on the ground provided by the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC).
- 5.3 The Technical Session see the value and potential utilization of the ICM Training Manual as references in other ICM-related training courses such as the Professional Master's Course with the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (UP-MSI).

CONCLUSIONS

The Technical Session concluded that:

- 5.4 There is a need to mainstream the ICM Training and capacity building to the national level.
- 5.5 There is a need for the national government to encourage the establishment of ICM system in its local government units and the promotion utilization of the ICM Manual by learning centers and academe for the conduct of ICM capacity building activities.
- 5.6 To include the “ecosystem-based approach in decision making” as part of the improvement of the ICM Manual.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Technical Session recommended:

- 5.7 The adoption of the ICM Manual as a PEMSEA certified document.
- 5.8 The adoption of the planned steps for the publication, dissemination and promotion of the ICM Manual.
- 5.9 The PRF work with Country Partners, Non-country Partners and learning centers to promote and facilitate the use of the ICM Manual for the conduct of ICM capacity building across the region.

6.0 Collaborative Discussion on Special Issues [\(PC/18/DOC/10\)](#)

- 6.1 The Secretariat introduced a new format for the Collaborative Discussion focusing on special issue areas that impact on PEMSEA and the implementation of the SDS-SEA. In particular, the 10th PC Collaborative Discussion focused on four major topics:
 - 1) PEMSEA’s Governance: Past, Present, Future
 - 2) Scaling up Integrated Coastal Management
 - 3) Blue Economy: Is it working?
 - 4) Implementing the SDS-SEA/SDG: from plan to action and resourcing
- 6.2 The delegates were divided into four groups to exchange insights and information relevant to the four topics.
- 6.3 Group 1 was facilitated by Dr. Jaeyoung Lee and Mr. Renato Cardinal of PEMSEA Secretariat. Mr. Arief Yuwono, Council Co-Chair, served as the rapporteur. The group highlighted the following:
 - PEMSEA is recognized for its innovative management and governance of the East Asian seas, coasts, and oceans. Its present challenge is to implement partnerships in coastal and ocean governance to enable PEMSEA to be a self-sustaining, country-owned regional mechanism governing the region. In order to understand and accelerate the functional and financial sustainability of PEMSEA, it is important to look at its past achievements, present challenges, and future direction.

- PEMSEA's past achievements and impacts consist of collaboration and partnership, ICM framework, evolution from a project/program status to an international organization, linkage of country partners to international agreements, and engagement of high-level officials on decision making processes through the Ministerial Forum.
- PEMSEA's present arrangements can still be improved including the recognition of PEMSEA's intergovernmental status while maintaining strong partnerships with other organizations and the private sector; the continuous support from Partner Countries through financial or in-kind contribution; strengthening of national focal points and collaboration with other countries particularly other regional blocs like the ASEAN; and the collective discussion with both Country and Non-Country Partners.
- PEMSEA's future direction may involve addressing other international issues such as micro plastics; enhancement of advocating projects, particularly for ICM and IUUCM to gain better support from the government; improvement of knowledge services and certification of sites; and continuation of voluntary contribution discussions from Country Partners to better elaborate the requirements and sustainability of PEMSEA.

6.4 Group 2 was facilitated by Ms. Nancy Bermas and Ms. Vida Isabel Vasquez of PEMSEA Secretariat. Dr. Sheila Vergara, Project Development Officer of ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) served as the rapporteur.

- The ICM practice has evolved and remained significant in the face of emerging challenges and global developments of the coasts and oceans. Its role in enhancing the effectiveness of coastal governance to promote the sustainable use of coastal resources and maintain ecosystem services has been proven and recognized by the significant investments provided by GEF and other multilateral and bilateral sources of funding.
- The contributing factors that have added value in ICM implementation are still recognized by partners as enabling mechanisms in scaling up ICM such as institutional support (i.e., government support, funds, programs & plans), capacity building (i.e., trainings and technical support for science-based approaches); and best practices (i.e., monitoring and evaluation, coastal strategy & implementation plan, public recognition of progress).
- Some recommendations were made to help resolve implementation gaps and enhance the scaling up of ICM. These include: 1) Educate stakeholders, policymakers, and the local government; 2) Mainstream and institutionalize ICM in various government sectors and relevant agencies; 3) Use science-based approaches; 4) Align activities and initiatives with Country and Non-Country Partners; and 5) Use of tools (e.g., State of Oceans and Coasts Reporting, Integrated Information Managements System, Coastal Use Zoning, Marine Spatial Planning, etc.).
- PEMSEA can maximize its role as the regional mechanism in coordinating the implementation of SDS-SEA by rolling out the lessons learned and knowledge products, knowledge sharing/platform, and demonstrating gains on the ground in implementing the ICM mechanism.

6.5 Group 3 was facilitated by Ms. Maricor Ebarvia and Ms. Kathrine Rose Gallardo-Aguiling from PEMSEA Secretariat. Dr. Keita Furukawa, Director, Ocean Research and Development Department of Ocean Policy Research Institute of Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF) served as the rapporteur.

- PEMSEA's Blue Economy initiative, integrated within the State of Oceans and Coasts (SOC) Report, promotes the value of oceans in sustainable development. Although EAS countries have undertaken actions to transform traditional ocean economy to blue economy, it is important to understand its gaps and challenges to explore possible areas of collaboration and opportunities for the region.
- Some of the current challenges and gaps that were identified are: the need to establish a common understanding and firm definition, particularly when linked to sustainable development and SDGs and green economy; lack of national policies on oceans and lack of awareness and appreciation of the blue economy approach; and communication of blue economy's concept and benefits may vary depending on the stakeholders and may need concrete examples to illustrate what it means in specific contexts.
- Despite these challenges, opportunities are also available for the region. For instance, the SOC reports will help clarify the concept of blue economy by presenting best practices and outcomes and showcase the benefits of the coasts and oceans; blue economy has already been incorporated in many ICM sites through the application of the integrated management approach, the coverage of several sustainable development aspects including sustainable fisheries, habitat restoration and pollution reduction, involvement of various stakeholders; and the current initiatives and efforts on blue economy would eventually lead to a tipping point where blue economy becomes the norm.
- PEMSEA with its Partners can support the advancement of the blue economy approach by communicating solutions and best practices at various levels; providing scientific support and technical assistance; collaborating with private sector; and supporting country initiatives, programs and plans in the areas of fisheries (i.e., alternative livelihood programs and strategies on supply chain, access to market and harvest) and plastics (i.e., alternatives to reduce plastic use, need for national policy on plastic waste and marine debris, regional and national plan of action, collaboration with private sector, change economics of plastics, etc.)
- Blue Economy is working as it is not a separate concept and approach to sustainable development. However, it still requires enhancement in establishing a common understanding of blue economy; in improving governance at the local, national and regional level; creating enabling conditions and incentives. It also requires the involvement of various stakeholders; access to new technologies, resources and information to reduce pollution, etc; change of mindsets and behavior; capacity development and knowledge management.

- 6.6 Group 4 was facilitated by Mr. Ryan Whisnant and Mr. David King Pangan of PEMSEA Secretariat. Mr. Darren Waterman, Regional Director, Asia Pacific, Oil Spill Response Limited, served as the rapporteur.
- In the implementation of SDS-SEA or SDGs, there is a need to shift the focus from planning to sustainable implementation and investment. The private sector plays a key role for economic systems to reverse unsustainable global trends as they provide capital for sustainable investments.
 - At present, sectors of solid waste management, water and waste water, ecotourism and community resilience are seen to have the greatest need for action and investment. In addition to this, some factors hinder the move from planning to action, including lack of understanding of bankable projects and investments, lack of coordination among stakeholders and political will, and lack of development expertise in bridging on-the-ground projects with investment capital.
 - On the other hand, the identified sectors have great potential and opportunities for bankability and impact. The integration of sectors, for instance, can create some opportunities when less bankable projects are combined with bankable projects that have more potential (e.g., wastewater and tourism).
 - To help facilitate the transition from planning to action and investment, it was suggested to have proper incentive schemes for companies; share knowledge, best practices and raise awareness; identify conservation hotspots (i.e., Boracay, Philippines); and boost political will to create the right regulatory or enabling environment that supports investment.
 - Moving forward, PEMSEA can best promote its facility within the region by approaching banks that seek social impacts, connecting and coordinating with other agencies (planning and investment) beyond the environmental sectors, collaborating with other conservation groups in the region, and utilizing the opportunity in bridging the gap between local governments and other stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

- 6.7 The Technical Session noted the rich and comprehensive discussions on the various issues and concluded that the collaborative discussions provided valuable inputs to the PEMSEA post 2020 report and can also be turned into various knowledge products.

RECOMMENDATION

The Technical Session recommended that:

- 6.8 A write-up be developed to contribute in the PEMSEA Post-2020 Plan.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION

1.0 Opening of the Intergovernmental Session and Adoption of the Intergovernmental Session Agenda ([PC/18/DOC/11b](#))

- 1.1 The Intergovernmental Session was chaired by Dr. Vu Thanh Ca, Acting Intergovernmental Session Chair, with support from Dr. Antonio La Vina, Council Chair.
- 1.2 The Intergovernmental Session adopted the session agenda as presented (Annex 4)

2.0 PEMSEA's Sustainability ([PC/18/DOC/12](#))

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- 2.1 The Intergovernmental Session noted with appreciation the efforts undertaken both by the PEMSEA Executive Director and the Executive Committee in the conduct of country discussions on voluntary contributions in support of PEMSEA's sustainability, as well as the continuing initiatives to expand sources of funds through various multilateral and bilateral fund sources.
- 2.2 The Intergovernmental Session noted with appreciation the ongoing in-country discussions and processes facilitated by PEMSEA National Focal agencies to secure approval of country contributions to support PEMSEA's sustainability. In particular, the following updates were provided by the Country Partners:
 - China- the State Oceanic Administration (SOA) is currently undergoing organizational restructuring, which is expected to be completed before September 2018. The draft Letter of Agreement on Cooperating with and Supporting PRF to Facilitate the Implementation of the SDS-SEA for the year 2018 is currently being reviewed by SOA.
 - Indonesia- the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) has conducted internal discussions and identified the following options: (1) In view of the nature of the agreement to be developed there is a need to consult with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of the required government process; (2) Provide in-kind contribution.
 - Japan- The contribution for post-2020 is under consideration and lies on two key points: (1) PRF to have a clear sustainability plan, and (2) Secure financial support from other PEMSEA Country Partners.
 - Lao PDR- open to joint fundraising initiatives
 - Philippines- Re-affirmed continued support on the hosting of the PRF based on existing agreement between DENR and PEMSEA on hosting of PRF building and utilities, in order to ensure smooth and continuous operation of PEMSEA. Highlighted the support to the EAS Congress 2018 as a way to contribute in ensuring the sustainability of the triennial EAS Congress. The Government of the Philippines thru DENR also recently endorsed the accreditation of PEMSEA to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The Philippines also supports the UNDP/GEF Integrated River Basin Management Project as well as the FAO Source to Sea Project. The Philippines expressed hope in developing more joint projects with PEMSEA.

- RO Korea- As the current GEF project ends in 2020, ROK emphasized the importance of having a clear direction on how to structure PEMSEA's financial sustainability, and reiterated their concurrence with the recommendations provided by the Third-Party Assessment on securing PEMSEA's sustainability.
- Singapore- Since 2015, Singapore has been providing voluntary contributions to the PRF and reaffirmed that this commitment will continue. Singapore also underscored the importance of increasing the donor/funding base in order to ensure PEMSEA's sustainability. To justify support to PEMSEA, it is important for PEMSEA to respond to the needs of the countries and show PEMSEA's value and benefits.
- Timor Leste- The Government of Timor Leste thru the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) have been contributing to PEMSEA on annual basis since 2006. However, in view of the recent elections, MAF will have to discuss and secure the approval of the new Minister to continue the annual support to PEMSEA. Timor Leste has also mandated concerned local governments to allocate funds in support of PEMSEA's objectives/initiatives. Timor Leste also requested for PEMSEA's support in developing a project proposal on coastal resilience and climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Viet Nam- The Vietnam Administration for Seas and Islands (VASI) have already submitted a letter on voluntary contribution to PEMSEA to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) for approval. It is expected that in the coming months, VASI will be able to confirm contribution to PEMSEA. VASI also requested support from the PRF to help speed up development of proposal on marine plastic management in the EAS region in line with the discussions at the GEF Assembly held in Da Nang last June 2018. It is foreseen that the marine plastic project to be developed will be a crucial initiative as part of PEMSEA's Post-2020 plan.

2.3 The Intergovernmental Session noted key projects that were identified to be developed in countries with support from PEMSEA, particularly in Vietnam (initiative on marine litter/plastics in the region), Timor Leste (coastal resilience and climate mitigation and adaptation), Lao (on fisheries management and technology and targeted research on estimating water flows in select river basins) and the continuing collaboration with the Philippines on projects submitted for consideration under the Green Climate Funds (GCF) and the Global Environmental Facility.

CONCLUSIONS

The Intergovernmental Session concluded that:

- 2.4 Country ownership and support through voluntary contributions is crucial in ensuring PEMSEA's sustainability.
- 2.5 To facilitate and secure country support, it is also important for PEMSEA to remain relevant and responsive to the needs of the countries.
- 2.6 PEMSEA Partners' active engagement in PEMSEA Post-2020 plan and activities is important to ensure identification of joint initiatives and help ensure PEMSEA's sustainability.

DECISIONS

The Intergovernmental Session decided that:

- 2.7 Country Partners continue facilitating in-country discussions and secure approval of support for voluntary contributions to support PEMSEA's sustainability.
 - 2.8 Country and Non-Country Partners work with the PRF in identifying joint projects of interest in the region and countries to ensure effective implementation of the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022.
 - 2.9 PRF coordinate with Vietnam, Lao, Timor Leste, Philippines and Cambodia on the joint fundraising initiatives.
 - 2.10 Country and Non-Country Partners actively participate and contribute in the PEMSEA post-2020 planning process.
 - 2.11 In order to gather more support for the PEMSEA Post-2020 Plan, PRF package and disseminate information materials on PEMSEA's accomplishments that would help popularize and mainstream PEMSEA initiatives on various governance levels.
- 3.0 Sustainable Financing Mechanism for Supporting the SDS-SEA Implementation**
[\(PC/18/DOC/13\)](#)

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- 3.1 The Secretariat presented an update on the status of development of a sustainable financing mechanism supporting SDS-SEA Implementation. Referred to as the East Asia Ocean Investment Facility, the primary purpose of this mechanism is to identify, develop and promote projects that can attract capital for investment in infrastructure, technologies, systems, etc. in support of SDS-SEA implementation.
- 3.2 The funding allocated from the PEMSEA Trust Fund by the Intergovernmental Session at the 9th EAS Partnership Council Meeting is intended as seed funding, enabling PEMSEA to provide services for identifying and developing bankable projects. It is not intended to be an investment itself. An accounting of allocation of the funding was provided by the Secretariat.
- 3.3 The SDS-SEA has been recognized for its potential as a mechanism to reduce investment risks and PEMSEA as a leader in facilitating new approaches to blue economy investment.
- 3.4 PEMSEA's self-sustainability does not rely on the OIF. The facility exists to help scale up implementation of the SDS-SEA. This is distinct from initiatives supporting the operations of the PRF, which is accomplished primarily through voluntary country contributions and project fees.
- 3.5 Progress has been made in developing and implementing the OIF, including hiring an Investment Specialist to plan, coordinate and implement design and operation of the OIF, creating standardized processes and templates, assisting local governments and other

stakeholders in identifying and developing investment projects, and consideration for potential for cash flows that can partially contribute to the PRF's financial sustainability.

- 3.6 With the OIF, the PRF can offer investment-support services to PEMSEA Partners, including preliminary assessment of bankability of projects, analysis of business and financial models, matchmaking with investment funds. Benefits the PEMSEA Partners include assistance with the identification of bankable projects without the need to build robust internal expertise or capacity; an ability to connect with a growing pool of project developers and interested investors and funds; matching with the right additional sources of investment capital; promotion of bankable projects to funds and investors; and sharing of expertise, de-risking and consolidation of bankable projects.
- 3.7 Following the presentation, a question was raised about the difference between the activities of the Ocean Investment Facility and PEMSEA's past and ongoing development of projects. The Secretariat clarified that, distinct from donor-funded projects, the Ocean Investment Facility will identify and develop projects that not only generate positive social and environmental impacts, but also a financial return that can support sustainability. A primary objective is to facilitate projects that can attract private capital, in contrast to the traditional donor-funded projects.

CONCLUSIONS

The Intergovernmental Session concluded that:

- 3.8 Development of an East Asia Ocean Investment Facility is progressing and clarification of its role and benefits is helpful.

DECISIONS

The Intergovernmental Session decided that:

- 3.9 PRF continue its implementation of the East Asia Ocean Investment Facility in line with the agreed work program.
- 3.10 Country Partners are encouraged to provide suggestions on the type of information and assistance that would help countries to facilitate the identification of potential bankable projects; promote the facility with local stakeholders; and suggest local counterparts that can assist with investment project coordination on the ground.

4.0 Sixth Ministerial Forum and Declaration ([PC/18/DOC/14](#))

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- 4.1 The Intergovernmental Session noted with appreciation the efforts by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) of the Philippines in line with the Sixth Ministerial Forum preparation, particularly the invitation to the President and in facilitating issuance of letters from the Philippine President to PEMSEA Country Partners to secure participation of Ministers.

- 4.2 On the proposed Ministerial Forum programme, it may be best to re-assess and shorten the program as some Ministers may not be able to stay for 2 nights in Iloilo. The planned Press Conference after the Ministerial Forum may need to be done in advance to enable the press to submit news articles/reports in time for the afternoon/night news release or programs.
- 4.3 The following suggestions were made on the draft Ministerial Declaration:
- 3rd paragraph: Spell out official names of all international agreements cited in the Declaration
 - 4th paragraph: Insert “marine-related destructions” in the statement to read: “...climate change and other environmental threats such as marine-related disasters, ...”
 - 5th paragraph: Check other PEMSEA documents to validate use of the term “intergovernmental organization”
 - 4th commitment on marine litter: Consider building upon commitments made by countries on marine litter
 - Commitment section: In between the 5th and 6th commitment, there was a suggestion to consider adding another commitment that would carry a message along this line- “Realizing the critical importance of dealing jointly with coastal and marine hazards including storm surge and tsunami, we commit to provide support for the region on ocean monitoring, forecasting and early warning, as well as in raising awareness on coastal and marine disaster assessment and management, and disaster risk reduction and prevention.” Some countries indicated that they would have to look at the revised draft and come back with further inputs.
 - 6th commitment related to Paris Climate Agreement: Delete “to implement our Nationally Determined Contributions” and replace with “in responding to climate change” to read: “we commit to collaborate with each other in responding to climate change including on adaptation and mitigation.”
 - On Ministerial Declaration structure: re-organize some paragraphs to ensure that each section will have clear focus (i.e., preamble; commitments to sustainable EAS region; expression of support to PEMSEA and cooperation among partners).
- 4.4 The meeting noted the proposed work plan and schedule to complete the in-country consultations and approval of the Ministerial Declaration, taking into consideration that some buffer would be needed in case more questions arise in the process of country consultations.

CONCLUSIONS

The intergovernmental Session concluded that:

- 4.5 Taking into consideration the busy schedule of Ministers, the Provisional Program for the Ministerial Forum need to be flexible to accommodate possible adjustments.
- 4.6 The confirmation of participation of the Philippine President would help Country Partners fast track and secure high-level participation to the EAS Congress and the Sixth Ministerial Forum.

DECISIONS

The intergovernmental Session decided that:

- 4.7 The PRF revisit the proposed Provisional Program for the Sixth Ministerial Forum based on the suggestions from the Intergovernmental Session.
- 4.8 The Government of the Philippines, through DENR, to facilitate securing confirmation of participation of the Philippine President ideally by September or in the soonest time possible.
- 4.9 PRF revise and recirculate the draft Ministerial Declaration taking into consideration the suggestions and inputs provided by the Intergovernmental Session for Country Partners' further review and input.
- 4.10 Proposed Work Plan and Schedule for review and approval of the Ministerial Declaration be adopted taking into consideration engagement of Non-Country Partners in providing additional suggestions that will be subject to Country Partners' consideration.

5.0 PEMSEA Corporate Work Plan and Budget 2018 and 2019 ([PC/18/DOC/15](#))

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

- 5.1 The PEMSEA ED presented the PEMSEA Corporate Work Plan and Budget 2018-2019, emphasizing that the work plan and budget provides only indicative costing on target activities. Actual reporting of expenditures, on the other hand, are reflected in the annual audit reports.
- 5.2 The representative of RO Korea indicated that they will be requesting further information on the work plan and budget from the PRF by email.

DECISIONS

The Intergovernmental Session decided:

- 5.3 To provide countries with better appreciation and understanding of the Work Plan and Budget, PRF to include a summary of previous year's work accomplishment and expenditures to enable countries to identify increase/decrease in budget allocation or use.
- 5.4 Approve the Work Plan and Budget 2018 and 2019 as presented, taking into consideration request from the Intergovernmental Session for PRF to provide more detailed reporting in succeeding meetings, if necessary.

6.0 Other Business

PEMSEA Financial Audit Report 2017

- 6.1 The Intergovernmental Session was informed that the external audit for PEMSEA's Financial Statement for 2017 has been completed by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). The report was reviewed and approved by the PEMSEA Audit Committee Meeting, and further approved by the PEMSEA Executive Committee in June 2018.
- 6.2 The Intergovernmental Session noted the clean opinion on PEMSEA's Financial Statement for 2017 based on the approved [External Audit Report \(e-link\)](#).
- 6.3 The Meeting also noted that in accordance with PEMSEA's Rules of Governance, the external auditing firm will have a 3-year term/contract. After 3 years, the PRF calls for bid of new external auditors which will be reviewed and approved by the PEMSEA Audit Committee.

Nomination and Election of Council Co-Chairs

- 6.4 The Intergovernmental Session noted the next regular election of Council Co-Chairs to be conducted in 2019.
- 6.5 Country Partners were requested to start identifying possible nominees in preparation for the formal nomination which will commence in April 2019 and conclude with formal election at 11th EAS Partnership Council Meeting in July 2019.

7.0 Adoption of Conclusions and Recommendations of the Council and Technical Sessions

DECISION

- 7.1 The Intergovernmental Session adopted the conclusions and recommendations of the Council and Technical Sessions.

8.0 Closing of the Intergovernmental Session

- 8.1 The Executive Director conveyed her utmost appreciation towards the delegates for the productive and insightful discussions at the Meeting. She expressed her gratitude towards the partners for their understanding and the pleasant welcome she received on her first Partnership Council Meeting. The Executive Director looks forward to building more collaborations with partners and meeting them in the upcoming EAS Congress 2018 in November.
- 8.2 The Acting Intergovernmental Session Chair declared the Meeting closed on 27 July 2018 at 11:00 AM.

ANNEX 1
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Antonio La Viña
Council Chair
EAS Partnership Council
Philippines

Mr. Makoto Harunari
Technical Session Chair
East Asian Seas Partnership Council and
Managing Director,
Japan Transport Research Institute
Japan

Mr. Arief Yuwono
Council Co-Chair
EAS Partnership Council and
Advisor for Energy to the Minister of
Environment and Forestry
Republic of Indonesia

Mr. Vu Thanh Ca
Acting Intergovernmental Session Chair
EAS Partnership Council and
Associate Professor
Hanoi University of Natural Resources and
Environment
Vietnam

Dr. Jae Ryoung Oh
Technical Session Co-Chair
EAS Partnership Council and
Principal Researcher,
South Sea Research Institute
Korea Institute of Ocean Science and
Technology (KIOST)
RO Korea

COUNTRY PARTNERS

CHINA

Dr. Zhang Zhaohui
Deputy Director
China PEMSEA Center and
Associate Professor
First Institute of Oceanography
State Oceanic Administration
People's Republic of China

Ms. Zhu Xiaotong
China PEMSEA Center
First Institute of Oceanography
State Oceanic Administration
People's Republic of China

INDONESIA

Mr. Dida Migfar Ridha
Director
Marine and Coastal Pollution and
Degradation Control
Ministry of Environment and Forestry,
Republic of Indonesia

Ms. Irene Aditya Yuniarti
Head
Section for Quality Standard
Marine and Coastal Pollution and
Degradation Control
Ministry of Environment and Forestry
Republic of Indonesia

JAPAN

Mr. Kiyoto Inoue
Director for International Ocean Affairs
Ocean Policy Division
Policy Bureau
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport
and Tourism
Japan

Mr. Masami Suya
Coordinator for International Ocean Affairs
Ocean Policy Division
Policy Bureau
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport
and Tourism
Japan

LAO PDR

Dr. Inthavy Akkharath
Director-General
Department of Water Resources
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment
Lao PDR

PHILIPPINES

Atty. Analiza Rebueta-Teh
Undersecretary
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources
Republic of the Philippines

Ms. Corazon Davis
Assistant Secretary
Administration and Finance
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

Ms. Lourdes C. Wagan
OIC Director
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects
Service
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

Ms. Marlynn Mendoza
Division Chief
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

Ms. Jeslina B. Gorospe
Chief of Project Monitoring and Evaluation
Division
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects
Service
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

Ms. Hannah Ritual
PEO
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects
Service
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

Ms. Andrea Palma
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects
Service
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources

Ms. Sandra Victoria Arcamo
Chief
Fisheries Resources Management Division
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

RO KOREA

Mr. Kwang-ryong Kim
Director
Marine Environment Policy Division
Marine Policy Office
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
Republic of Korea

Ms. Su Yeon Kim
Deputy Director
Marine Environment Policy Division
Marine Policy Office
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
Republic of Korea

SINGAPORE

Mr. Kevin Khng
Deputy Director
International Policy
Ministry of the Environment and Water
Resources
Singapore

Ms. See Wan Yin
Senior Executive International Policy
Ministry of the Environment and Water
Resources
Singapore

TIMOR LESTE

Mr. Celestino da Cunha Barreto
National Director for Fisheries and Aquatic
Resources Management
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Timor Leste

Mr. Mario Marques Cabral
Project Coordinator for the
SDS-SEA Scaling up Implementation
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Timor Leste

VIETNAM

Dr. Ta Dinh Thi
Acting Director General
Viet Nam Administration of Seas and
Islands
Viet Nam

Dr. Nguyen Le Tuan
Director
Institute of Seas and Islands Research
Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands
(VASI)
Vietnam

NON-COUNTRY PARTNERS

ASEAN CENTRE FOR BIODIVERSITY

Dr. Sheila Vergara
Project Development Officer
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Philippines

Ms. Claudia Binondo
Project Development Officer
ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
Philippines

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES

Ms. Evangeline Miclat
Program Manager
Conservation International Philippines

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE (IUCN)

Dr. Steen Christensen
Regional Coordinator
Mangroves for the Future
Asia Regional Office
Thailand

KOREA INSTITUTE OF OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (KIOST)

Dr. Suk-Jae Kwon
Principle Research Scientist
Environmental and Natural Resource
Economics
Korea Institute of Ocean Science and
Technology (KIOST)
Republic of Korea

KOREA MARINE ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

Ms. Chang Joon-Young
Team Head
International Affairs Team
Korea Marine Environment Management
Corporation (KOEM)
Republic of Korea

Ms. Jayeon Kim
International Affairs Team
Korea Marine Environment Management
Corporation (KOEM)
Republic of Korea

OCEAN POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE – THE SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION (OPRI-SPF)

Dr. Keita Furukawa (Eng.)
Director
Ocean Research and Development
Department
OPRI-SPF

Mr. Masanori Kobayashi
Senior Research Fellow,
Ocean Policy Research and Development
Division
OPRI-SPF
Japan

Oil Spill Response Limited

Mr. Darren Waterman
Regional Director
Asia Pacific
Oil Spill Response Limited
Singapore

Plymouth Marine Laboratory

Prof. Icarus Allen
Director of Science and Deputy Chief
Executive
Plymouth Marine Laboratory
Prospect Place PL1 3DH
Plymouth, United Kingdom

PEMSEA Network of Local Governments (PNLG)

Dr. Peng Benrong
Professor
College of Environment and Ecology (CEE)/
Coastal and Ocean Management Institute
(COMI)
Xiamen University
Xiamen, China

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub

Dr. Jose Erez Padilla
Regional Technical Adviser, Waters and
Oceans
Bangkok Regional Hub
United Nations Development Programme
Thailand

UNDP PHILIPPINES

Mr. Michael Joseph Jaldon
Energy and Environment
United Nations Development Programme
Philippines

OBSERVER

THAILAND

Mr. Suthep Jualaong
Director of Marine and Coastal Resources
Research and Development Center
Southern Gulf of Thailand

PEMSEA SECERTARIAT

Ms. Aimee Gonzales
Executive Director
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross
Project Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Dr. Jae-Young Lee
Deputy Head
Planning and Partnerships
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Renato Cardinal
Knowledge Management and Certification
Services
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Nancy Bermas
Senior Country Programme Manager
and ICM Specialist
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Cristine Ingrid S. Narcise
Country Programme Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Daisy Padayao
Country Programme Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Johanna Diwa
Capacity Development Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Kathrine Rose Gallardo-Aguiling
Secretariat Coordinator
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. David King Pangan
Investment Specialist
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Jhowilyn Zaldivar
Country Programme Assistant
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Elsie Merina
Programme Assistant
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Vida Isabel Vasquez
Secretariat Assistant
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Maricor Ebarvia
Blue Economy Consultant
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Ryan John Whisnant
Consultant
Consultant
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Lawrence Ang
Consultant
PEMSEA Resource Facility
Blue Economy Consultant

Mr. Thomas Bell
Intern
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Julia Marie Guerrero
Congress Sub-Coordinator
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. John Castillo
Graphic Artist
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Jun Dacaymat
IT System Administrator
PEMSEA Resource Facility

ANNEX 2
COUNCIL SESSION AGENDA

**ANNOTATED AGENDA OF THE 10th EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL SESSION**

July 24, 2018 (Tuesday)

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|---|
| 1515 - 1520 | 1.0 | Opening of the Council Session and Adoption of the Council Session Agenda
The Council Chair will open the 10 th EAS Partnership Council Meeting and preside over the Council Session with assistance from the Council Co-Chair. The Session will be requested to review and adopt the Council Session agenda. |
| 1520 - 1540 | 2.0 | Summary of Recommendations and Decisions of the 9th EAS Partnership Council (July 2017) and the 20th and 21st Executive Committee Meeting (April 2017) and Status of Actions Taken
The Council Session will be informed of the major recommendations and decisions of the 9 th EAS Partnership Council Meeting, and the 20 th and 21 st Executive Committee Meeting and actions taken. The Council Partners will be invited to comment on the report. |
| 1540 – 1610 | 3.0 | Report of the Council Chair
The Council Chair will provide the EC's perspectives and key policy recommendations pertaining to major PEMSEA issues tackled by the Executive Committee in 2017 and 2018.
The Council Session will be requested to provide further comments on the Council Chair's report. |
| 1610 – 1640 | 4.0 | Report of the Executive Director
The PEMSEA Executive Director will present her initial reflections on PEMSEA's program since her appointment in January 2018 and share her proposed way forward for the organization.
The Council Session will be requested to provide further comments on the ED's report, as well as provide further suggestions on PEMSEA post 2020. |
| 1640 – 1650 | 5.0 | Other Business |
| 1650 – 1700 | | Closing of the Council Session |

ANNEX 3
TECHNICAL SESSION AGENDA

**ANNOTATED AGENDA OF THE 10TH EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
TECHNICAL SESSION**

July 25, 2018 (Wednesday)

- 0830 –0840 **1.0 Opening of the Technical Session and Adoption of the Technical Session Agenda**
The Technical Session Chair will preside over the Technical Session with support from the Technical Session Co-Chair. The Technical Session will be requested to review and adopt the Session’s agenda.
- 0840 –0930 **2.0 SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022**
The Secretariat will present the revised SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022 which incorporates the consolidated results of consultations undertaken with PEMSEA Country and Non-Country Partners in identifying strategic areas of collaboration for the next five years.

The Technical Session will be requested to review and comment on the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022 and endorse it to the Intergovernmental Session for final adoption.

The PEMSEA Partners will be requested to share information on projects/initiatives (ongoing or planned) that contribute to the SDS-SEA implementation.
- 0930 – 1030 **3.0 East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2018**
On behalf of the host country, the Philippine representative will provide a short update on the progress made with regard to the preparation for the EAS Congress 2018.

The Secretariat will present a more detailed update on the different aspects of the EAS Congress Programme preparation.

The Technical Session will be requested to provide further suggestions on Country and Non-Country Partner preparations and support to ensure the successful conduct of the EAS Congress 2018.
- 1030 – 1045 **Coffee Break**
- 1045 – 1120 **4.0 National and Regional State of Oceans and Coasts (SOC) Reporting**
In preparation for the launching of the Regional and National State of Oceans and Coasts reports at the EAS Congress 2018 and 6th Ministerial Forum, the Secretariat will apprise the Technical Session of the status of the regional and national SOC reports and the key findings coming out of the reports.

The Technical Session will be requested to provide further suggestions and means to ensure the completion and publication of reports in time for the EAS Congress and 6th Ministerial Forum.

1120 – 1200

5.0 ICM Training Manual

The Secretariat will submit the ICM Training Manual and present its key features for review and adoption of the document as a PEMSEA- certified document.

1200 – 1330

Lunch Break

1330 - 1530

6.0 Collaborative Discussion on Special Issues

The Technical Session will be divided into five break-out groups to discuss and share information on ongoing and planned initiatives, their challenges and prospects under the following four topics:

- (1) PEMSEA's Governance: Past, Present, Future
- (2) Scaling up integrated coastal management
- (3) Blue Economy: Is it working?
- (4) Implementing the SDS-SEA/SDG implementation: from planning to action and resourcing

1530 – 1545

Coffee Break

1545 - 1630

Continuation of Agenda Item 6.0

Following the break-out group discussions, the assigned rapporteur from each group will present the highlights/key messages, conclusions and recommendations from their respective groups.

1630 – 1650

7.0 Conclusions and Recommendations of Technical Session

1650 – 1700

Closing of the Technical Session

ANNEX 4
INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION AGENDA

**ANNOTATED AGENDA OF THE 9th EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
INTERGOVERNMENTAL SESSION
(Country Partners only)**

July 26, 2018 (Thursday)

- 1330 – 1340 **1.0 Opening of the Intergovernmental Session and Adoption of the Intergovernmental Session Agenda**
The Acting Intergovernmental Session Chair will preside over the meeting. The Session will be requested to review and adopt the Intergovernmental Session agenda.
- 1340 – 1415 **2.0 PEMSEA’s Sustainability**
The PEMSEA ED will provide a status update on the results of initiatives and exploratory discussions undertaken in support of PEMSEA’s self-sustainability. The ED will also present her perspectives on current and future outlook for the organization, including the establishment of a PEMSEA post-2020 framework.
- The Country representatives will be requested to provide further updates on the result of further in-country consultations (following the ED’s country visits) regarding voluntary contributions in support of PEMSEA’s sustainability.
- The Intergovernmental Session will be requested to provide further suggestions and possible opportunities in support of efforts to ensure PEMSEA’s sustainability.
- 1415 – 1500 **3.0 Sustainable Financing Mechanism for the SDS-SEA Implementation**
The Secretariat will present a progress report on the development of a sustainable financing mechanism for SDS-SEA implementation.
- The Intergovernmental Session will be invited to provide further comments/suggestions.
- 1500 – 1530 **4.0 Sixth Ministerial Forum and Declaration**
The Secretariat will provide an update on the preparations for the Sixth Ministerial Forum. The Secretariat will present the Provisional Programme for the Ministerial Forum and the Draft Ministerial Declaration.
- The Intergovernmental Session will be requested to review and provide inputs to the Ministerial Declaration.
- The revised draft Declaration that will be developed as a result of the Intergovernmental Session’s review will be finalized and submitted to countries after the 10th PC Meeting for the second

round of in-country consultations and confirmation to the Ministerial Declaration.

- 1530 – 1545 **Coffee Break**
- 1545 – 1700 **Continuation of Agenda Item 4.0**

July 27, 2018 (Friday)

- 0900 **Resumption of Intergovernmental Session**
- 0900 - 1000 **5.0 PEMSEA Corporate Work Plan and Budget 2018 and 2019**
The PEMSEA work plan and budget for 2018 and 2019 will be presented to the Intergovernmental session for review and adoption.
- 1000 - 1030 **6.0 Other Business**
- 1030 – 1045 **Coffee Break**
- 1045 – 1130 **7.0 Adoption of Conclusions and Recommendations of the Council and Technical Sessions**
- 1130 – 1200 **8.0 Review and Adoption of Decisions of the Intergovernmental Session**
- 1200 **Closing of the Intergovernmental Session**
